

California GARDEN

SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S
GARDEN MAGAZINE
FOR 51 YEARS

Winter, 1960
Vol. 51, No. 4

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

WINTER, 1960 VOL. 51, NO. 4

COVER—*Begonia involucrata*, a fibrous cane (see p. 20). From a painting by Alice M. Clark. Courtesy *The Begonian*.

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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Elsewhere in this magazine, Chauncy Jerabek mentions the case of a rare tree which stood in what is now Bonham Brothers parking lot at Third and Elm. If he'd known in time, Jerabek regretfully says, he would have interceded with the Bonhams, and if the Bonhams had known in time, well, he feels sure that he'd have another *Agathis australis* on his list.

A similar case with a happier ending occurred a number of years ago when plans for a medical clinic at Sixth and Juniper called for felling a magnificent *Eucalyptus citriodora* on the site. That time, Miss Alice Greer got the ear of two of the future tenants, Drs. Churchill and Redelings, in time to save the tree.

You can't really blame business men if they sometimes become disillusioned in their attempts to beautify their surroundings. Twice in as many months, someone has ripped the tops from the newly-planted Jacarandas in front of the Hope building at Sixth and Beech.

But this is not the season to be militant, so I'll stop.

* * *

In La Jolla, that marvelously pungent odor of eucalyptus always seems strongest at this time of year. The explanation is probably prosaic—more fog in the air and more seed pods to be crunched under more auto tires—but the effect is poetic, and as much a part of Christmas as jingle bells.

* * *

Congratulations to CG subscriber Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger of Santa Barbara, winner of the American Begonia Society's Eva Kenworthy Gray Award for 1960. When such honors fall to our readers, I like to think that, even if the magazine didn't help, at least it didn't do any harm.

* * *

Impertinent Question No. 4

Admittedly Mission Bay Park is supposed to be a playground, but the recent announcement of plans for a floating island, with waterfall and volcano, and dancing girls, no doubt, makes me wonder: are we trying to out-disney Disneyland?

* * *

Mabel Hazard and Ada Perry, both former editors of this magazine, have gone on to bigger and better things as producer and script-writer respectively of the program for next February's

Charity Ball. The theme? Just what you ought to expect: "The Enchanted Garden." If you're not the ball-going sort, but would like to have a program, you can reserve a copy through this office by calling before January 1. \$1 each, proceeds to Childrens Hospital.

* * *

Dorothy Behrends, a frequent contributor to these pages, reports that her new book, *Begonias Slanted Toward the Beginner*, is doing well, especially outside of California. It gives a real boost to California growers.

* * *

Success that shows: the garden center building nearing completion at Presidio Nursery may call for some reshuffling in any list of "show-place" nurseries in the County.

* * *

A note to advertisers: *Harper's* magazine says "It's almost an axiom in publishing that influence runs contrary to bigness." What CG lacks in size of circulation it makes up in quality.

* * *

Last September, Sylvia Leatherman chided San Diegans for not growing enough begonias. Back in 1942, when the latest edition of *Standardized Plant Names* was published, San Diego may have rated consideration as begonia capitol of the world. Seven of the 48 "introducers" listed there belonged to San Diego: Bower, Fewkes, Grant, Gray, Robinson, Vedder and Waite. Since then, such names as Hunter, Lowry, Morgan, Palmer and Scripps would probably be added. Maybe all that San Diego needs is a good public relations man to add another title to its claims as the "City of Champions."

* * *

Name dropping: among our subscribers are a cousin of Cole Porter, a daughter-in-law of Mme Schumann-Heink, an MGM producer (ex-subscriber, and boy how his pictures have been going downhill). Why not drop your name in the mail (with \$2) and join this distinguished company?

There isn't much time—the next issue will be out February 1. That's right, six issues in '61, because you asked for them. And the subscription price remains at only \$2. We'll make this thing sound like a bargain yet. Subscribe, and we'll all have a Happy New Year.

George La Pointe



From the deck east of the Floral Association Building looking into the patio at the start of the Fall Flower Show. Speaker's platform, right center; mixed chrysanthemums, center, on display platforms in the angle formed by the raised planters. Curving screen starts beside the eucalyptus at right.

Two Steps Nearer a Garden Center

... the Floral's Show-place Patio

THOSE who attended the Fall Flower Show on November 5 and 6 witnessed the debut of the Floral Association's handsome new patio. In actual fact, the patio area as it stood on those days was only two steps along the way toward total development.

The first step was taken several years ago when the area to the east of the building was enclosed with a grapestake fence, making possible the first indoor-outdoor Chrysanthemum Show. Shortly thereafter, a large wooden deck was built at right angles to the building to create a comfortable transition from floor to ground level through the building's double doors. A portion of the central area was paved with concrete blocks at that time.

The second step began last spring with the commissioning of landscape architect Roy H. Seifert to develop a master plan for the patio area. The goal was to create a permanent display garden, as a background for flower shows, which incorporated the existing construction. Seifert worked with a committee of Floral Association members, including Mrs. Sheldon Thacher, Mrs. J. J. Kennelly, Miss Jane Minshall, and Roland Hoyt.

A number of factors had to be considered: achieving a maximum display area while retaining sufficient walking room for a flower show crowd; dividing the area into interesting, yet well-organized, spaces which would still present a unified appearance and blend with the existing deck and fence; keeping costs down while achieving a garden with dramatic impact.

WITH the completion of step two, a portion of the master plan has now been carried out, with more to come as funds become available. What visitors to the Fall Flower Show saw and admired was the basic construction called for in the master plan, that which gives line and form and definition to the area.

Perhaps the most eye-catching element is the curving screen of horizontal 1x2's, stained a warm, light-brown to contrast with the dark-brown supports. A display bench constructed as part of the screen provides an ideal setting for potted plants or arrangements. Mounted at every other post, high above the bench, are small display platforms, ideal for cascade chrysanthemums or hanging fuchsias

or begonias.

A raised planter against the grapestake fence solves the show exhibitor's perennial problem of camouflaging cans or pots. This planter is filled with a fir bark mulch so that containers may be sunk out of sight. A permanent planting of *Pittosporum tobira* affords a pleasing background for show specimens. A screen dividing the planter repeats the design of the dominant curving screen, its straight lines providing interesting contrast. The low, round speaker's platform and a three-stepped series of circular display platforms are important points of interest in the central area of the garden. The warm tones of brown used throughout give a strong sense of unity to the design.

THUS a substantial start has been made toward completion of the garden center as visualized in the master plan. What remains for the third and final step as funds become available? Considerable fill dirt is needed at the south, along with extension of the paving to the end of the curving screen. A small water garden next to the building will add frosting to the cake. The space north of the existing deck is to be developed for garden show use, while the area outside the fence is visualized as a display garden, with a meandering walk alongside. An additional entrance through the fence is to be provided near the east end of the deck. Outdoor lighting, reaching high into the branches of the towering eucalypti, is another possibility for the future.

The area has already proved itself a perfect setting for a flower show. It will also be used for social occasions and for lectures and horticultural demonstrations. As the "Garden Center" concept comes nearer to reality, it is possible that a continuous floral display can be maintained in the patio area, with various garden clubs taking turns displaying their specialties. Then, when tourists come knocking at the door and ask "where are the flowers?", we'll have something for them to see. Probably in years to come, the Floral Association and affiliates will wonder how they ever got along without their show-place patio!

—Jane Minshall

You can tell whether your *Wisteria* is Chinese or Japanese by counting the leaflets. The Chinese variety (*W. sinensis*) has seven to 13 leaflets (mostly 11), while the Japanese (*W. floribunda*) has 13 to 19.

FUN MAIL

Whether it's fun or pain, it's fun to get mail.

Camp at Torrey Pines?

Sir:

I am particularly pleased to learn of your interest [in Torrey Pines State Park] because I know, through my long association with the late Guy Fleming, how helpful your Association was in shaping the conservation policies of the Park, and in helping to maintain its integrity as an inviolate wildlife sanctuary.

When our Association heard, through the public press, that the State authorities planned to place a 400 unit camp in the lagoon and marsh area of Torrey Pines Park we were greatly concerned, as we felt that such a move would violate the purposes for which this Park was founded, and would create a precedent that might threaten all of our State Parks.

At the meeting of our Board of Counselors held June 8, 1960, we passed a resolution requesting the Park authorities to officially place the Torrey Pines State Park in the status of a "Wilderness Area."

Shortly thereafter, the Board of Directors of the San Diego Society of Natural History passed a resolution and authorized a letter to the State Park Commissioners which strongly supported our request. They also advocated an alternate plan which called for placing the proposed camp in the area east of the railroad that bisects the lagoon and marshes.

Most of us who shared Guy Fleming's dream of a "preserve" that would be perpetuated as an unspoiled area of primitive California for future generations to enjoy, would prefer to see the entire Park kept inviolate as a "Wilderness Area" to keep faith with our founders.

If Sacramento insists on a camp in proximity to Torrey Pines Beach, the logical site would be the area east of the railroad right-of-way. This would protect the upland portion of the Park and also the most important

sections of the marsh and lagoon area.

Guy Fleming apparently had this in mind when he prepared the map of Torrey Pines, wherein he designates the area east of the railroad as a "suggested public camp ground." It is much better adapted to overnight camping than the portion originally selected by the Park authorities. It is closer to the new freeway route as planned, is more sheltered from wind and spray, and is accessible to the beach by two underpasses already constructed.

The Division of Beaches and Parks in their publication *News and Views* recently remarked on the "danger" of extinction of the wonderful African animals. One would think they might have equal concern for the wildfowl of the Pacific Flyway, where resting and feeding grounds are being wiped out.

The Director of the Division has now assured us that no work will be done on the campgrounds until a year of study has been given the project. This gives us time to prepare and present our case for conservation.

JOHN A. COMSTOCK
President, Torrey Pines Association

At its October meeting, the Board of Directors of the Floral Association endorsed the position of the Torrey Pines Association. Express your opinion on this subject to your State Representative, to DeWitt Nelson, Director of the Dept. of Natural Resources, Sacramento, and to Charles A. DeTurk, Chief, Division of Beaches and Parks, 1125 10th St., Sacramento 14. Or write to them in care of this magazine, and we will forward your letters.—Ed.

Bouquets . . .

Sirs:

The last CALIFORNIA GARDEN was nicely done and so interesting. All of us here enjoyed it and received a wealth of information from it. The calendar of local garden clubs was most helpful. As a result of it, our club members attended several of those meetings.

FRANCES S. PLUMB
Cabrillo-Mission Garden Club
San Diego

Sir:

Enclosed is my check for \$2; please add my name to your list of subscribers.

I would like to say that the Summer 1960 issue, bought from a newsstand, was very interesting and informative, and en-

joyed by me and my friends. A magazine of this sort is needed in San Diego; I'm glad that it is now available to the public.

MRS. CECIL CARENDER
Lakeside, California

. . . and Birds

Sirs:

Your magazine is as welcome at our house as the hummingbirds that come to our feeder. We enjoy both because they are constantly interesting.

In the Autumn issue, Edith P. Healey's article in *strelitzia* was particularly enjoyable, but conspicuously missing was any mention of a double "royal bird." We have a double bloom on our plant now; I wonder if it is unusual.

May I also comment on Margaret Kuntz's article "Hard Rock and Necessity." Our home in La Mesa is built on "hard rock," and the desire to have a nice lawn and garden has "necessitated" lots of time and hard work. Our sympathies and congratulations go to the author.

One more word: may we have six issues next year? The extra two would be as gratefully received as a 50% increase in the number of hummingbirds that visit us.

STANLEY A. MEIRING
La Mesa, California

Extra hummingbirds coming up.—Ed.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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San Diego 1, California

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SDFA ACTIVITIES

(Visitors Welcome)

Dec. 10-11: Christmas Decorations Show, Floral Bldg.
Dec. 17: Christmas Lights Bus Tour, 7:15 p.m., \$1.50, call CY 6-2267.
Dec. 20: Regular meeting—Bell Choralers, Plant Exchange, 8 p.m., Floral Bldg.
Jan. 17: Regular Meeting—Bob Ogden on Garden Lighting, 8 p.m., Floral Bldg.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CLASSES
Fourth Monday, 9:30 a.m.
Instructor: Mrs. J. R. Kirkpatrick

FLOWER ARRANGERS' GUILD
First Thursday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.
Chairman: Miss Alice Greer

AFFILIATE MEMBERS 1960

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BEGONIA SOCIETY
Third Friday, Gardens of Members, 10:30 a.m.
President: Mrs. Arthur Tenney Emerson
416 Ninth Ave., Coronado HE 5-5790
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Anita Lynch
202 Lewis, S.D. 3 CY 8-1400

CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB—
Second Wednesday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.
President: J. Everett Henderson
3503 Yosemite, S. D. 9 BR 4-1754
Rep. Dir.: Eugene Zimmerman
1942 Abbe, S. D. 11. BR 7-3383

MISSION GARDEN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO—
First Monday, Floral Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. H. L. Etensohn
4390 Lowell St., La Mesa. HO 6-8718
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. E. R. Bohe
3145 North Mountain View Dr. AT 2-7422

ORGANIC GARDENING CLUB—
Third Friday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.
President: Stuart Green
621 Center St., La Jolla GL 4-0581
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Hermine Hilkowitz
1756 Mission Cliffs Drive, S.D. 16. CY 6-2282

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY—
Second Friday, Floral Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
President: Clive Pillsbury
3452 Cromwell Pl., S.D. AT 4-1233
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Lester Crowder
3130 2nd, San Diego 3 CY 5-5871

S. D. CHAPTER CALIF. ASS'N. NURSERYMEN
Fourth Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
President: Peter Millenaar
910 Turquoise, S.D. 9 HU 8-3012
Rep. Dir.: Frank Antonelli
1525 Ft. Stockton Dr., S. D. 3 CY 5-2088

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Fourth Tuesday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Joe A. Bishop
2521 33rd St., S. D. 4 AT 4-1741
Rep. Dir.: Dr. J. W. Troxell
4950 Canterbury Dr., S. D. 16 AT 2-9131

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY—
First Tuesday, Floral Building, 8:00 p.m.
President: Eugene A. Casey
4730 Valencia Dr., S.D. 15 JU 2-0083
Rep. Dir.: Miss Elizabeth A. Newkirk
1654 La Mancha Dr., S.D. 9 BR 4-2042

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA SOCIETY—
Second Monday, Floral Building, 8:00 p.m.
President: Mrs. Mary Bray Watson
2737 Commonwealth Ave., S. D. 4 AT 4-2667
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Mary Bray Watson
2337 Commonwealth Ave., S.D. 4 AT 4-2669

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY—
Third Monday, Floral Building, 8:00 p.m.
President: Charles J. Lewis, Jr.
10498 Rancho Rd., La Mesa
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Clive Pillsbury
3452 Cromwell Pl., S.D. HO 9-7220
AT 4-1233

VISTA MESA GARDEN CLUB
Second Tuesday, Floral Building, 8:00 p.m.
President: Mrs. G. T. Clark
3884 Ashford, S.D. 11 BR 8-0505
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. D. R. Gardiner
8003 Linda Vista Rd., S.D. 11 BR 7-3635

OTHER GARDEN CLUBS

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
San Diego Branch
Fourth Mon., Barbour Hall 8:00 p.m.
President: Dr. R. J. McBride
San Miguel Branch
First Wed., Youth Center, Lemon Grove, 8:00 p.m.
President: Mrs. Ferris H. Jones HO 9-2337

CABRILLO—MISSION GARDEN CLUB
Third Thurs., Members' Gardens, 9:30 a.m.
President: Mrs. Raymond K. Stone BR 7-7134

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB
First Fri., City Annex, 1:00 p.m.
President: Mrs. John L. Wick PA 9-1713

CHULA VISTA FUCHSIA CLUB
Second Tues., C. V. Women's Club, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. J. L. Riese GA 2-0587

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Third Wed., C.V. First Christian Club, 1:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Elmer Berggren HIA 0-3504

CLAIREMONT GARDEN CLUB
Third Tues., Clairemont Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
President: Mrs. Wm. Cordes BR 6-4182

CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
No regular meeting date, Christ Church Parish Hall
President: Adm. G. D. Zurmuehleln HE 5-6361

CROWN GARDEN CLUB of CORONADO
Fourth Thurs., Red Cross Bldg., 1113 Adella Lane
President: Mrs. Clifford A. Lenz HE 5-8143

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB (Pauma Valley)
Second Tues., Homes of members, 1:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Henry Gale PI 2-3286

EAST SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB
First Wed., E. San Diego Women's Club, 10:30 a.m.
Chairman: Mrs. Fred C. Gregory CY 5-2831

ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB
Thrd Fri., Women's Club House, 1:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Albert Seibert SH 5-4933
Flower Arrangers Work shop—first Friday, 9:30 a.m.
Horticulture Workshop—fourth Friday, 9:30 a.m.

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BEGONIA SOCIETY
Third Mon., Community House, La Jolla, 7:30 p.m.
President: Frank C. Quintana GL 4-3185

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Last Thurs., Reche Clubhouse, 1:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Walter Hughes RA 8-7233

IMPERIAL BEACH GARDEN CLUB
Third Tues., South Bay Community Center, 1:00 p.m.
President: Mrs. Al Hague GA 4-9425

LAKEVIEW GARDEN CLUB
Third Mon., Lakeside Farmers School, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Cecil Canderer HI 3-1575

LA MESA SPRINGHOUSE GARDEN CLUB
Third Thurs., Porter Hall, La Mesa, 7:30 p.m.
President: Cdr. Alfred A. Paulsen HO 6-8366

LA MESA WOMEN'S CLUB (Garden Section)
Third Thurs., La Mesa Women's Club, 1:45 p.m.
President: Mrs. Eva K. Shearer HO 6-5810

LEMON GROVE WOMEN'S CLUB
(Garden Section)
First Tues., Lemon Grove Women's Club House, 1:00 p.m.
Chairman: Mrs. H. Irving Vernier HO 3-5674

MISSION BEACH WOMEN'S CLUB
(Garden Section)
First Fri., Mission Beach Women's Club House, 9:00 a.m.
Chairman: Mrs. John Bate HU 8-5476

NATIONAL CITY GARDEN CLUB
Third Wed. National City Community Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
President: Kenneth Boulette GR 7-9240

O. C. IT GROW GARDEN CLUB
Second Wed., South Oceanside School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
President: Walter Watchorn SA 2-3501

PACIFIC BEACH GARDEN CLUB
Second Mon., Home Federal Friendship Hall, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Eugene Meyers BR 3-2434

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
Second Wed.
President: Mrs. Hardy H. Kent PL 6-1428

SANTA MARIA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Second Mon., Ramona Park, 10:00 a.m.
President: Mrs. Frank McKenzie

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
First Fri., Vista Recreation Center, 1:30 p.m.
President: Mrs. Jack Morgan PA 4-7510

For easy reference, a complete listing of Garden Clubs in San Diego County
— for corrections and additions call BE 2-5762

California Garden

WINTER, 1960

• Trees

1960 has been a hard year for trees in San Diego. Progress has mowed them down.

But before we wax sentimental on the subject, we might do better to consider the case for trees on practical grounds: the effect of trees on tourists (and their dollars); on climate (is San Diego really getting hotter, or is it the massing of humanity, concrete and asphalt that makes it seem that way?); on the long-range condition of soil; on the temper and productivity of the citizenry. Perhaps on these grounds we can make trees fashionable in 1961, and give the word "growth" a double meaning.

Trees grow rapidly in San Diego, but not until they are planted. We hope to stimulate you, sentimental or not, to "think trees" to the point of action. In this issue, you'll find a grab-bag assortment, with more to come in the future: trees, both ordinary and exotic, and ideas, practical and sometimes visionary, for using them on your home grounds and in community projects. Put trees on your personal agenda, and on that of your garden club, your women's club, your service organization. Think trees, and plant them.

Here's to a shady '61.

A handsome Bunya-bunya Pine in front of the North Park home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence W. Babbitt, 3410 Pershing. Planted in 1948.



THOSE CHRISTMAS TREES ON THE SKYLINE

by Chauncy I. Jerabek, San Diego Tree Man

ORDINARILY, you might not think of pines as characterizing a tropical or subtropical landscape, but in the entire United States, the Star Pine and some of its close relatives flourish out of doors only in Southern California and Florida. In the San Diego area, these trees of the *Araucaria* family, with their characteristic shape of mammoth Christmas trees, share a place of prominence on the skyline with eucalyptus and the taller varieties of palms.

The Star Pine (*Araucaria excelsa*), also known as Norfolk Island Pine, is the one most frequently seen here. A favorite as a living Christmas tree because of the regularity with which its branches grow tier upon tier, it maintains a conical form even to a height of 100-plus feet. In colder climates, it is sold as a pot plant by the thousands, especially at Christmas time, but San Diegans need only glance upward as they drive through Coronado, Mission Hills, La Jolla, Golden Hill, North Park, or the South Bay area, to see hundreds of towering specimens far beyond the house-plant stage.

The branches grow five to seven to a tier, and on younger trees, are heavily covered with awl-shaped leaves of a distinctive light green. In this young stage, the branches form a drooping mass that often touch the ground, but on larger trees the sections of bare trunk separating the tiers are readily visible.

If you have room for a Star Pine, culture is relatively simple. The trees require ample water, but when planted in a lawn, as is common in San Diego, they should be set slightly high to prevent water-logging. Older trees become quite drought resistant.

Locations (large specimens)—

Central & East: 4146 Miller, 1975 Sunset Blvd., 2265 Ft. Stockton, 4321 Valle Vista, 2606 Third, 2931 Thorn, 5021 Litchfield.

Southeast: 840 Morrison.

Pt. Loma: 2858 Ibsen, 3242 Homer, 3045 Homer, 3212 James, 2930 Chatsworth, 3325 Curtis, 3246 Fenelon.

Bay Park: 1835 Erie.

La Jolla: 1385 Park Row, 1881 Viking, 7847 Exchange, 5568 Linda Rosa, 7501 Olivetas (double-trunked).

Some beautiful smaller trees—

East: 5157 E. Bedford Dr., 2336 Bancroft, 2512 33rd.



You can see above why *A. excelsa* is called Star Pine. At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul O. Person, 2770 C. Planted about 1955.

Southeast: 5535 Miraflores Dr., 5515 Miraflores Dr.

Pt. Loma: 1024 Moana, 4592 Tivoli.
Pacific Beach: 3321 Buena Vista, 3663 Yosemite.

Closely related to the Star Pine is *Araucaria columnaris*, a native of New Caledonia. It is also a conical tree, but considerably narrower than *A. excelsa*, which it resembles when young. As the tree grows older, its leaves tend to become boat-shaped. In spite of its usefulness where a tall, columnar specimen is wanted, it is rare in San Diego.

Locations—
Southeast: 5626 Olvera.
Coronado: 530 J.
La Jolla: 245 Kolmar; and two at the entrance of 5805 Waverly.

One of the most attractive araucarias as a small tree is *A. bidwilli*, the Bunya-bunya pine. On young trees the lower branches are distinctly drooping, and the dense foliage is a shining light green. As the trees grow larger, they shed many of the sharply-pointed leaves and become bare except for tufts at the tips of the branches. Older trees often have a flattened, dome-shaped crown.

This tree produces huge cones, shaped like pineapples, which weigh up to ten pounds and measure as much as a foot in length. One cone will yield eighty or more two-inch seeds. When boiled, salted and roasted, these seeds have a flavor half-way between chestnuts and almonds, and are highly nutritious. In ages past aborigines used them as food, often traveling a hundred miles to an area where the trees were plentiful.

Locations (large specimens)—
Central & East: 1245 Essex, 4130 Lark, 3511 Sixth, 1404 Meade, 3903 Georgia, 2204 Cliff, SE corner Albatross and Hawthorn, 1821 First (double-trunked); 3009 Union (six trunks!); 4741 Lorraine, 4614 Edgeware.

Southeast: 2730 L.
Paradise Hills: NE corner Seabreeze & Roanoke.

National City: 5603 Potomac.
Pacific Beach: 4764 Lamont.
La Jolla: 1300 Torrey Pines Rd., 7553 High.

The China Fir, *Cunninghamia lanceolata*, closely resembles *A. bidwilli* in habit of growth. Its narrow leaves are glossy dark-green above and glaucous beneath, and are spirally arranged on the branches. After several years, they turn a reddish-brown in autumn and eventually drop off along with the small branchlets. The tree has stout branches and a heavy trunk, from which the bark hangs in brown shreds. The small and very attractive ovoid cones send new growth from their centers, as do the Melaleucas and Calistemons.

A good tree for a small place, *Cunninghamia* is common in San Diego years ago, but is seldom seen today.

Location—
1893 Capistrano (corner Macaulay) on Pt. Loma.

Another interesting tree which is allied to the araucarias is *Agathis australis*, known as the Kauri or Dammar pine. A native of the North Island of New Zealand and South Queensland, it is considered one of the most important trees of the southern hemisphere. It is a resinous tree of symmetrical form, with glossy, dark green leaves having many longitudinal, full-length veins. The new growth is a beautiful bronze.

The cones of *agathis* are ovoid or globose, two to three inches in diameter. After ripening, they disintegrate and scatter winged seeds far and wide.

Agathis australis should be more widely planted in the San Diego area because the tree is not particular about soil. A giant specimen used to grow in what is now a parking lot for Bonham Brothers Mortuary at Third and Elm, and another massive tree was in the grounds of the old Putnam place on Fourth. Today the only ones I know of are in Balboa Park: five specimens east of the Electric Building, and one southwest of the statue of El Cid, near the second arch of the arcade.

The Star Pine and the other trees discussed here are unique and picturesque features of the San Diego scene, and often occasion admiring questions

from visitors. Because of their size as mature trees, they must be used with caution in the small garden, but in large grounds and public places they are both beautiful and distinctive.

Field Grown Christmas Trees

Shopping for Christmas trees at a nursery or at one of the tree farms in San Diego County can turn out to be fun for the whole family.

If you have a place in your garden for a living Christmas tree, by all means consider one of the many varieties available at local nurseries. Or if garden space is at a premium, choose one that will grow indefinitely in a container and will serve indoors through many holiday seasons. The attractive Alberta Spruce (*Picea glauca conica*) is an ideal choice for apartment dwellers. This dwarf grows 1/2-1" yearly, reaching only 7 feet in thirty-five years.

Among the pines, Monterey has long been one of the first choices, but you may also find Stone and Aleppo pines with pleasing shapes. Deodar Cedar and Sierra Redwood are other possibilities.

For a pleasant day of hunting for a cut tree, drive out to one of the tree farms listed below. There you will have a choice among hundreds of trees growing in the fields, with the added assurance that the tree you bring home is field fresh.

Julian Area

Farmer's Tree Farm and Nursery, Highway 78, 3 miles E of Santa Ysabel. Open 7 days a week. 8 acres of conifers (pines, some cedars, Arizona Cypress and spruce) on a choose-and-cut basis.

Monterey Pine, 50 cents a foot; others, 75 cents a foot.

Pauma Valley (take Highway 395, turn east on Highway 76)

Homer Sharpless, 2 miles W of Rincon Springs, open until dark, daily except Sunday. 600 trees available on a choose-and-cut basis.

Monterey Pine, to 9', Incense Cedar (small), Knob Cone Pine, all 75 cents a foot.

Arizona Cypress, 40 cents a foot.
Dewey Kelly, Big Cone Spruce, price and sizes by arrangement.

Join The Society Of EUCALYPT-O-MANIACS

(all you have to lose are your prejudices)

by Alice Greer

ONCE, I heard *you* say, "Don't talk to me about eucalyptus. They're lovely on the skyline. That's near enough. I'll let my neighbor rake up the leaves and bark."

Another *you* remarked, "Eucalyptus in my small garden? One tree would gobble up the entire place. Look at their size."

Yet another *you* complained, "I'm frustrated. Those fairy-like blooms and pods tantalize me. They're an artist's delight. I want them for flower arrangements, but only a tree climber could reach them."

You may have the objections to eucalyptus culture firmly in mind, but take a look at *Eucalyptus caesia* and see what it does to your objections.

Number one: *Caesia's* light, reddish-brown bark, thin and glossy, is persistent. I defy you to find one fallen shred of bark, leaf, bloom or seed-pod under foot. Whatever becomes of them after they have fulfilled their life cycles, I don't know. I can tell you only that they are not there waiting for you to rake. Sorry, that argument doesn't hold.

Number two: You have a small

garden? Then here's your tree—fifteen to twenty feet tall, a six to eight foot spread of slender, weeping branches (easily controlled by pruning), average diameter of trunk three to four inches—plenty of space remaining in your garden for other planting.

Number three: *You*, the flower arranger, can easily reach *caesia's* blooms, pods, and buds. And almost any day of the year there are blossoms for your pleasure. Incidentally, the blooms and leaves keep splendidly when used as cut specimens in arrangements.

THESE you are. All objections overruled; only praise from me. Until you see *caesia's* pendulous veil—a delicate weaving of blue-green foliage; of silver twigs, dusted with gray powder (the word "*caesia*" means bluish-gray); of dainty, strawberry-pink flowers tipped with numerous golden stamens; of lime-gray bud caps; of silver seed pods on delicate, gray stems—you have not seen a prize-winning horticultural cascade.

Whether the late Hugh Evans of Los Angeles introduced *E. caesia* along



Horticultural cascade, *Eucalyptus caesia*.

with other decorative "bush" types from Australia, I am not certain. At any rate, he gave me my tree in a gallon container eighteen years ago. It has twice been cut to a naked trunk eight feet tall, coming out again beautifully each time. Now, following Hugh Evan's suggestion, it awaits a cutting four feet from the ground. More of a bush and less of a cascade may be the sad result.

As with all eucalyptus, culture is not a problem. It repels pests, does not need spraying, requires only infrequent irrigation, since it likes to be kept on the dry side, tolerates a fair soil with good drainage, will take a little frost, and can thrive either in full sun or partial shade.

The late E. O. Orpit of Santa Barbara considered *E. caesia* one of the most popular of the small, flowering eucalyptus, but not many are growing in the San Diego area. Donald Jones, specialist in Australian plants, recommends it for a street tree. For this purpose it would be very attractive and out of the ordinary, although it might need "heading up" at times. Certainly no root damage to sidewalks would result. Can't you visualize a street bordered on both sides by shimmering eucalyptus cascades? I would like to see this planting undertaken in some of the local areas now being developed.



This eucalyptus shrub stops traffic at the La Jolla Highlands home of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Benedict, 8794 Dunaway Dr., especially at night when headlight beams turn it silver. It is *E. macrocarpa*, a dusty gray shrub or small tree which produces huge pink blooms and thrives under arid conditions in mediocre soil.



Sierra Redwood at Palomar.

Redwoods for San Diego

EVEN IN San Diego, where their survival rate has been unimpressive, the lure of the redwoods is strong. Most commonly planted here is the Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), but shallow soils and a long succession of dry years have put a limit on their life span.

Dewey Kelly, veteran San Diego nurseryman who lives in Pauma Valley at the foot of Mt. Palomar, claims that the Sierra Redwood (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) is a far better choice for San Diego soil and climate. The Coast Redwood, Kelly argues, needs moisture on its foliage *daily* for best development. He cites the case of Stanford University, where gardeners had to rig up a special sprinkling system to save a Coast Redwood on the grounds. Even during the foggy months, San Diego's climate won't meet this requirement for moisture in the air.

Since the Sierra Redwood originates in the inland valleys of California, it thrives under hotter, drier air conditions. It is also a deeper rooted tree

than the Coast Redwood, and consequently does a better job of seeking and finding water in the soil.

Sierra Redwoods are growing with notable success at Palomar; planted around 1937, they now average about thirty feet in height. Near some of the service buildings, the trees were planted close together to form screens; others, in the large field that sweeps eastward from the Observatory itself, were planted as specimen trees. These are several hundred feet apart with ample room to develop. Looking eastward from the Observatory, you will be able to pick out the redwoods by their perfect conical shape—they look like the trees on a model landscape, almost too perfect to be true.

In Hemet, this same redwood is being grown on a commercial basis for Christmas trees. Hemet's climate is drier, and both hotter and colder than San Diego's.

For a look at both redwoods in San Diego, go to the east end of Cosoy Way in Presidio Park where two Sierras are growing among a larger group of Coast Redwoods. Other Coast Redwoods can be found in Balboa Park: a single specimen (planted in 1920) in the Pepper Grove Picnic area; and a grove north of the bowling green at Laurel and Balboa Drive (park on Balboa Drive and walk through the lush, tropical area of palms, and across the circle of lawn dotted with pepper trees. The redwood grove extends down the slope almost to the roaring traffic of Cabrillo Freeway. Standing on the springy turf beneath these handsome trees, you can almost capture the feeling of the great redwood forests, and the awe they inspire). The healthiest group of Coast Redwoods in the San Diego area is near Helix Reservoir, where the trees have apparently reached natural water.

Kelly advises planting the Sierra Redwood on the lowest ground available, instead of on slopes or hilltops, to take advantage of any natural moisture in the ground. He also cautions that they are named the "Big Trees" for a reason—give them room if you want a well-shaped, healthy tree.

In San Diego, redwoods of either type will require faithful watering, even after they become large. At Palomar, they have the advantage of up to 40 inches of rainfall, most of which you would have to supply. But if you want a redwood, and apparently a lot of San Diegans do, give the Sierra Redwood a try. CALIFORNIA GARDEN would like to hear about your experiences with it.

50 YEARS AGO in CALIFORNIA GARDEN

O. W. Howard, Dec., 1910. I am convinced that San Diego County can produce a greater variety of plants in the open air than any area of the same size in the U. S., if not in the world.

Edgar Johansen, Jan., 1911. While house architecture has made enormous progress in the last few years, we still stick to the fashions of fifty years ago when it comes to the selection and arrangement of trees and plants . . . Right here is where we make a great mistake. When the architect has planned and finished the house, the interest in architecture, as far as that house is concerned, is at an end. But when the garden is planned and planted, it remains a charge for generations. What we need is popular education with respect to the beauty, adaptability and arrangement of trees, plants and flowers for creating delightful gardens and providing fine landscape effects.

Feb., 1911. Thursday, January 26, [1911] was named as a special wild flower day, when the members and others who care to go would meet at Fifth and D, with poppy seed and implements to cover the seed, and go to the place where the Adams Avenue line crosses the canyon into Kensington Park. The members expressed a willingness to make these excursions once a month while the planting season lasts.

Blooming Balboa Park

DECEMBER

Mall—Salvia
Organ—Poinsettias
Prado—Begonias, Camellias
Formal—Stock
Botanical Building—Poinsettias

JANUARY

Prado—Begonias, Camellias
Rear of House of Hospitality—Camellias
Kings Garden—Pansies
Formal—Stock, Calendula

W. E. Hawkins
Park Supervisor

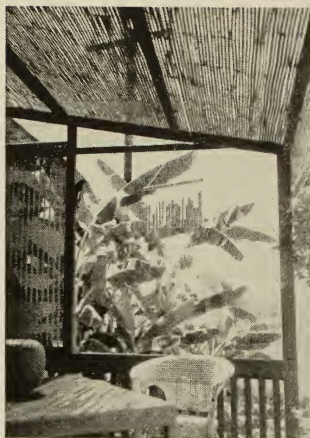
Construction details for a home green house using translucent fiberglass building panels are available free in an illustrated data sheet from Filon Plastics Corporation. Address Filon's Customer Service Division, Dept. T-2, 333 N. Van Ness Ave., Hawthorne, Calif. Ask for Data sheet No. 506. Others available outline easy construction of shoji screens, awnings, patiocourts and fences with fiberglass.

Hot and Treeless? Here's a

SIMPLE GARDEN SHELTER

NOT having a shade tree in the garden of sufficient proportions to sit under, I decided to build an inexpensive shelter to serve that purpose.

Using the side of the garage for the back of the shelter, I sank four two-by-four posts two feet into the ground, the two against the garage eight feet above the ground, and spaced twelve feet apart. The other two extended seven feet above the ground, nine feet in front of the first two. This made a rectangle nine by twelve feet. The top was framed by two-by-four laterals which served as braces, over which I stretched two-inch chicken wire netting as a support for a pair of inexpensive, bamboo



Shade and shelter with a tropical feeling for the price of a garden umbrella, at the home of George L. Obert, 5018 Hastings Rd.

porch shades that were laid over it and fastened. One shade was long enough to roll down three feet over the side to cut out the sun in the late afternoon.

I split a six-by-six bamboo blind

and hung half of it on each side of the shelter, thus forming partial walls at right angles to the garage. On each side, a balustrade thirty inches high was formed of narrow wooden slats laid on end.

The half-inch spaces between the cement blocks of the flooring have been planted with moss (*Helxine soleioli*). Furnished with Chinese peel furniture, the result is a delightful tropical-looking shelter, built at a cost little more than that of a good-sized garden umbrella.

—George L. Obert

An Invitation

Have you solved a garden problem in an unusual way as George L. Obert did with his garden shelter? (See also "Thinning Junipers Artistically" in the Autumn issue.) If so, you are invited to share your experience with other gardeners through these pages. Set down the facts of your case, stating the problem and how it was solved, and listing plant materials and/or construction details as they may apply (include a snapshot if possible). Address The Editor CALIFORNIA GARDEN, Balboa Park, San Diego 1, California.



FREE Tree Booklet

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A Red Birch with multiple trunks in the Pt. Loma Garden of Mrs. John H. Fox, 3300 Kellogg Rd. Mounds at left are silvery Calceopholis brownii. Landscape design by Roland S. Hoyt.

RED BIRCH for plant pioneers

IF you have the urge to pioneer with plants, consider the Red or River Birch (*Betula nigra*). This distinctive tree has all of the charm commonly associated with the birch family, with the vital added virtue of an ability to flourish in this sub-tropical climate. Yet you will have to ask for it and be prepared to wait; it isn't stocked.*

In the mild winter areas of Southern California, the widely-planted White Birch (*Betula pendula*, often sold as *B. alba*) has been a poor performer, but still ranks as one of the most popular choices among deciduous trees. Its appeal is partly nostalgic and romantic: the birch-bark canoe, the New England birches of countless photos and Christmas cards. Another appealing characteristic is a quality

*If your nurseryman is interested and progressive, he can get yearling whips, collected from the woods around McMinnville, Tenn., which will make salable trees in a year or two and adapt to containers. They come into Calif. under the embargo.

of liveliness: unlike some other deciduous trees which seem dead when leafless, the birch has a lithe and supple grace whether fully-leaved or bare. The Red Birch has the same qualities, the only striking difference in appearance being its cinnamon-red bark; certain individual specimens may show suggestions of cinnabar.

Red Birch originates in Tennessee and Alabama in a climate far more similar to Southern California than the Scandinavian home of the White Birch. It thrives under the generous watering it receives as a lawn tree, and responds well to clump-planting or develops multiple trunks if cut to the ground when young.

San Diego landscape architect Roland Hoyt has included Red Birch in the planting at Mission Valley Center because he considers it ideal for this climate. It is essentially a river-bottom tree, wanting a high water table and all the frost, if any. (G.L.)

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Enjoy your garden full-time

Light It Up!

by Bob Ogden

DAYLIGHT is not always flattering to a garden, since it reveals the drab and the beautiful with impartial clarity. But when the sun goes down, you are in control, with an opportunity to set your own stage and dramatize familiar surroundings through the miracle of selective garden lighting.

Most well-designed gardens offer unlimited possibilities for a variety of lighting effects. A properly planned garden lighting installation not only adds beauty, but also provides a delightful, expanded living area for evening use. Outdoor play areas for activities such as badminton, shuffleboard and croquet become available for after-dark enjoyment—the only leisure time many of us have in this fast-moving world. Controlled flood-lighting on buildings, in trees, or on poles set in desirable locations, makes outdoor dining enjoyable and by lighting dark paths and stairways, adds a factor of safety.

There is no *standard* lighting installation. Each lighting scheme must be planned for the particular type of garden, and the individual preferences of the owner. A person who is primarily interested in outdoor entertaining will require highlighting of dining and game areas. Another would rather see his garden illuminated to provide the best possible treatment of form and shadow.

GARDEN lighting fixtures are designed for definite functional requirements, and the use of an improper fixture can spoil an otherwise harmonious and pleasing effect. The basic types are down-lighting, up-lighting, spread lighting, border lighting and "effect" lighting.

Down-lighting is achieved by suspending fixtures from trees or appropriate ornamental brackets. These fixtures are more of a decoration than a light source, although their softly

Bob Ogden is a garden lighting engineer with a leading San Diego electrical firm.



Photo by Bob Ogden

Three light fixtures bring the nighttime garden to life. Home of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Hillhouse, 1252 Fleetridge Dr. Garden design by the owners; lighting by Bob Ogden. This garden won an award in last summer's "Sun and Moon Spot" contest sponsored by Hazard Products.

diffused light does add mild illumination to the area directly below.

Up-lighting is an integral part of landscaping. Nearly all good weatherproof garden fixtures are designed to conceal the light source—to eliminate glare and add to the esthetic value of up-lighting. You will find that a very large part of your garden lighting will be of this type, especially when you have interesting trees and shrubs which you wish to emphasize.

A lighting unit unfamiliar to many is the one employing mercury vapor projector lamps. This unit is used where tall or large trees or medium-height structures are to be up-lighted. It projects a light of soft blue-green which is effective on olive, eucalyptus, palm, and trees of similar texture.

Spread lighting fixtures are designed for the type of lighting the name implies, to spread the light over large areas of low plantings or flowerbeds, driveways or parkways, where a wide, unobstructed light pattern is needed. This type of fixture is commonly called a "mushroom."

Since border lighting fixtures are the most conspicuous, great care must be taken in their selection. They should blend with the surroundings as much as possible without sacrificing their functional qualities. Their purpose is to light entrance ways, steps, pathways, driveways, border plantings, and dark spots where lighting require-

ments suggest a graceful unit.

"Effect" lighting is used to emphasize a definite article in the garden, such as a dwarf tree, stone lantern, or figurine. The fixture itself should be inconspicuous, since, as with border lighting, it is usually in plain view.

THERE are various sizes and wattages of lamps available, either clear or colored, for use in these fixtures. Most often used is the weatherproof projector lamp, which is constructed of a hard glass and withstands the elements very well. Wattages vary from the 20-watt fluorescent to the 300- and 500-watt floods and spots.

To bring warmth and a friendly feeling into a garden, I like to see an amber or yellow glow throughout the plantings, with a soft green here and there to add depth.

By all means be sure to work into your garden plan a shallow pool, fish pond or fountain to create a center of interest and serve as a conversation piece. For fullest enjoyment, an underwater light is a necessity.

Using combinations of the fixtures, lamps and ideas discussed here, there is no limit to the lighting effects you can achieve. With thought and imagination, and a few hours of your time spent in experimenting with fixtures, lamps and drop cords, a whole new world of nighttime garden enjoyment can unfold for you.



ROSES

... are red, yellow, pink ... everything but blue, and easy to grow. Here are varieties especially suited to San Diego, selected for you by Jean U. Kenneally.

IT'S bare root time again, and for most people that means roses. Rose enthusiasm is epidemic, with every lush illustration in the catalogs adding to the fever. But before your enthusiasm boils over, it's worth your while to consult with rosarians who have actually grown the varieties that interest you.

It's true, of course, that if you love a rose enough to spend time and study on it, you can make any variety perform reasonably well in the San Diego area. But so many roses grow beautifully with a minimum of care that you might as well choose the more satisfactory ones and take your rose gardening the easy way.

One thing which should influence your choice is geographic location. Climate changes every few miles as you move inland from the coast according to variations in humidity and altitude. A rose which is perfect for Pt. Loma is sometimes disappointing in El Cajon. In general, a rose with only fifteen to twenty-five petals opens

rather quickly, and will not hold its form well in a hot climate. Conversely, a rose with fifty or more petals sometimes balls and refuses to open in a coastal garden. Fortunately, there are a number of varieties which do well in all parts of San Diego County.

Let's begin with the hybrid teas:

Peace . . . a rose that everyone knows and loves; it grows well in practically every part of the world. In San Diego, give it plenty of water, and a location with afternoon shade for improved color and longer stems.

Tiffany . . . the aristocrat of the pink blends. This rose likes heat; on the coast, give it a southwest exposure, even a spot where it gets reflected heat from a wall.

Chrysler Imperial . . . the Queen of the reds, very fragrant. It needs about five hours of sun per day, and doesn't really hit its stride until the second year. Once established, it happily produces soul-satisfying, dark red blooms.

Mojave . . . a rich orange blend, color

Left: Chrysler Imperial, Queen of the reds, and Queen of the Show at the 1960 San Diego Rose Show as exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. Clive N. Pillsbury.

All cuts courtesy Pacific Rose Society News.

intensity varying with area and season. A husky, disease-resistant bush.

Golden Sceptre . . . an unfading, bright yellow; continuous bloom and long stems for cutting. A tall grower and reasonably free from disease.

Angel Wings . . . creamy white with pink to cerise flush on the petal edges, color varies with the weather. At its very best in San Diego, this rose makes a tall, erect bush loaded with blooms.

Charlotte Armstrong . . . cerise-red. A rose that almost grows itself; give it plenty of water and food and you'll have long-stemmed beauties all summer.

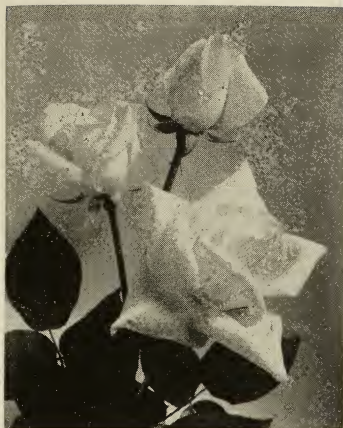
Mark Sullivan . . . a beautiful blend of orange, yellow, pink and red, classified as an orange blend. A real "rose factory," producing lovely blooms all summer on a bush with green, patent-leather foliage; very disease-resistant.

Aztec . . . classified as an orange blend, but really a cinnabar-red. Grow this one for the color and the lovely form. A rather sprawly bush, but if consistently pruned to an inside bud, it develops height in a few years. Probably your most perfect bloom will come from this plant, but not the greatest number of flowers.

Arlene Francis, Isobel Harkness . . . two lovely golden ladies with similar qualities: thick, green foliage, bright blooms which open rather quickly. Arlene has slightly better form.

Virgo . . . a really white, white rose with good substance and form. The plant is a little difficult, but nearly all white roses are susceptible to mildew.

White Knight, Sleigh Bells, McGredy's Ivory, Bridal Robe, Snow Bird . . . all whites seem to bloom best in early spring. There's no denying that white roses require more attention than the colors, but perfect



Above: White Knight, a white hybrid tea, blooms best in early spring, requires faithful spraying for perfect flowers.



Above: Angel Wings, at its very best in San Diego. A hybrid tea, creamy white with pink to cerise edges.



Right: Montezuma, a coral red grandiflora. It practically grows itself.

ones can be grown if you are faithful about spraying.

For casual rose growers, the grandiflora class is ideal. This type of rose is the result of a cross between hybrid teas and floribundas and produces both solitary blooms and clusters. Tall-growing and highly disease-resistant, long-lasting as cut flowers, grandifloras have only one fault: as a class they are not very fragrant. All varieties are good, but the following have proven themselves in this area; they practically grow themselves:

Queen Elizabeth . . . pink; Montezuma . . . coral red; Roundelay . . . rich dark red; Buccaneer . . . shining yellow; Pale Face . . . pure white; Dean Collins . . . coral.

The floribundas, a cross between hybrid teas and polyanthas (small flowers in clusters), are most effective when massed or used as hedges. They produce more garden color over a longer period than any annual or perennial, and will grow happily for fifty years if properly pruned. (Incidentally, be sure to attend the annual pruning demonstration given by the San Diego Rose Society during January, then go home and prune your roses between the first and fifteenth of February.)

Good varieties of floribundas: Circus . . . a brighter-colored, miniature Peace; Tom Tom . . . coral pink, wonderful for cutting; White Cloud . . . dependable white; Ma Perkins

. . . pink blend; Golden Fleece . . . chrome yellow, never loses its leaves, valuable as a hedge.

As for culture, a great deal of nonsense is current about what a rose requires. Actually, the rose is about the easiest to grow of all flowering shrubs. It will stand a surprising amount of neglect and still produce exceptional flowers.

1. A rose should be planted in an area where it receives several hours of sun each day. Roses will grow in any soil which holds the plant firmly and allows water to penetrate easily. To sandy and adobe soils add humus when digging the bed. Make provision for good drainage at planting time.

2. The rose bed should be mulched to a depth of at least three inches. Use wood shavings, sawdust, bean straw, steer manure, anything which will keep the soil cool and friable. Steer manure has the most food value, but is expensive. Essential nutrients are added by applying a handful of balanced rose food per plant once a month. Scatter it on top of the mulch and water it in. It is never necessary or desirable to cultivate a rose bed; you only destroy the hair-like feeder roots and delay the next crop of blooms.

3. A rose bed should be watered copiously; never allow it to dry out.

Roses, like every other plant, are subject to a number of insects and diseases. How should you deal with them?

If you have a small number of roses, wash the plants thoroughly with the hose every morning. If your goal is lovely garden color and fragrance, this daily hose bath will keep your roses free of aphids, red spider and mildew, and let you forget about spraying until some really voracious varmint comes along.

If, however, you're a rose perfectionist, you will be happier with the results of spraying at ten day intervals. Use a good all-purpose spray, one concocted to deal with both insects and diseases. Apply the spray from the base of the bush, coating the underside of the leaves as well as the surface. This type of spraying, along with daily removal of side buds, is what produces exhibition blooms for those growers who want every rose in their garden to be a prototype of the Queen of Flowers.

When questions arise, take advantage of the service provided by the American Rose Society through its regional Consulting Rosarians. They are available for lectures, garden consultations, and general advice on roses. They like nothing better than to talk about their favorite flower, and will be happy to try to answer your questions. Consulting Rosarians in San Diego County:

James Kirk, PowayRI 8-3870

Clive PillsburyAT 4-1233

Mrs. Joseph KennallyAC 3-6183

Good luck!

PESTS

of the

WEST

An endless battle goes on for possession of the garden. Who will win — you or the pests? Read this discussion of ways and means to make the victory *yours*.

by Frank Quintana

IN the catalog of skills that make up the art of gardening, probably none is more demanding of intelligent performance than spraying for pest control. Newcomers to Southern California are often astounded at the never-ending procession of bugs and worms, scales and mites, fungus, virus and Heaven-knows-what that appears on a year-round schedule to attack the garden. Even veterans of this continuing battle are amazed at times at the ferocity of the "troops" storming their plantings.

Fortunately, adequate defenses are available in quantity to destroy the invaders and discourage their re-entry. A trip to the local arsenal of defense weapons at your favorite garden shop or nursery (patronize our advertisers!) provides an interesting commentary on the ingenuity of man. Such an array of chemicals confronts you there that it's easy to become confused.

To help you untangle the conflicting mish-mash of claims by advertisers, suggestions of nursery clerks, recommendations of garden club members and friends, and the research you have done on the esoteric machinations of the Mexican who tends the garden next door, CG decided to solicit the views of a professional spray man. We spent several hours talking bugs with Verdine (rhymes with *pine*) L. Stotts, a licensed agricultural pest control operator.

Stotts, who is 32, is a native San Diegan, and except for a trip with the Army during the Korean conflict, has lived in this area all his life. Prior to Army service, he had worked as a landscaper, but upon returning to civilian life, he found that field overcrowded, and moved into chemical warfare as supervisor of Pest Control for the 11th Naval District.

During the nineteen months he served in that capacity, Stotts found that his 6 ft. 3 in., 210 pound frame was a decided liability when wriggling

through attics and into crawl-spaces under buildings on periodic inspections. Since the agricultural phase of his work had interested him especially, he decided to devote full time to it. It has kept him successfully busy for the past four years. During our conversation, he poured forth a torrent of information that confirmed his great interest, and left this reporter dyspeptic in the attempt to digest it all.

AGRICULTURAL pest control is a year-round activity, according to Stotts, but the greatest problems arise in spring and summer. Warm weather activates the life cycles of various pests, and in nature's wonderful way, the leaf-eaters and sucking insects appear just about the time the tender new plant growth develops. Higher summer temperatures accelerate the pests' activities, and their population soars. The generally dry summer weather is especially favorable to mites (red spider, spider mite, silver mite, etc.) which find the drier surface condition of the leaves more to their liking.

Fall, at least in terms of the pests' calendar, is make-ready time for surviving the winter. Scale insects are likely to become more evident at this time, and unseasonable warm weather in late fall can trigger an unseasonal emergence of a new generation of all species.

Winter is the gardener's time for prevention: following the pruning and clean-up phase of winter garden maintenance, a program of dormant-spraying will destroy those eggs and spores so carefully distributed by the preceding generation, and do much to reduce the heavy chemical warfare of the following spring.

Many of Stotts' calls are in the nature of emergencies, for treatment of heavy infestations that have mushroomed before being noticed, but he

plugs for a preventive program of spraying whenever possible. For complete control, the program should include four sprayings a year by a professional, but Stotts concedes that three such spray treatments will minimize pest problems. Timing is the crux of this proposition, and the timing is made to coincide with the characteristic life cycles of the bugs, and, generally speaking, with the microclimate of the garden involved.

Insofar as heavy infestations are concerned, one spraying will not do a complete job of eliminating the pest. A professional rig will drench a tree or shrub or an entire garden far more completely than the equipment normally employed by the home gardener, and the resulting percentage of kill will be greater by far than you can achieve with a Flit Gun, but the difficulty lies in the fact that a heavy infestation will probably encompass several generations of a species. Ten days to two weeks later, a new "hatch" is on its way. The problem is complicated by the fact that a new population can fly in from a neighboring garden, or from some nearby older planting of large "host" trees and shrubs. For these reasons, Stotts recommends a second spraying following the first by a matter of 14-16 days to achieve a completely cleaned-up plant or garden.

FOR the benefit of gardeners who are weary of do-it-yourself warfare, we asked Stotts about the cost of professional spraying on a preventive basis. The cost varies, as might be expected, with the size of the job, access to it, and the difficulties of the site, but for the purpose of guidance, he quoted a price for an average, level home garden of \$16 per application. Under a program of three to four treatments a year, this would not seem an exorbitant amount for the service and protection obtained.

The professional rig operates at pressures up to 450 pounds, permitting thorough coverage of even high trees. This factor, together with the use of spreaders, stickers, wetting agents, and special chemical formulations not available to amateurs, ensures the doom of garden pests. Professionals engaged on a yearly basis also check back through the seasons to make certain that no localized, unseasonable eruptions occur in gardens under their control.

A word about residue may be in order here. Many people have denied themselves the service of professional sprayers because of unhappy experience with the residue that wettable powders leave on foliage and buildings. The newer emulsifiable insecticides now in use have eliminated this problem.

FOR a person interested in doing his own control work, the primary requisite is a spraying device that will thoroughly drench the plants. It is essential to use a tool that puts out a goodly volume of spray. In this writer's opinion, those devices which attach to the end of a garden hose and siphon insecticide into a fairly flat, fan-shaped stream of water or heavy spray are the easiest to use and the most effective. The various pumpers are entirely suitable to small jobs, but they make over-all garden spraying a great chore.

The second requirement is the proper choice of an insecticide. Formulators of agricultural sprays have simplified the gardener's problems by providing mixtures of effective chemicals on the theory that one or more of the combinations will certainly eradicate the pest that is pestering your plants. These people have checked out the proper concentrations for maximum kill, and at the same time have worried in advance about the kind of plant you might be spraying with it. Since this is a highly technical age, *do yourself a favor by reading and following the directions for use.* Avoid adding an extra tablespoonful "for the pot" on Grandma's theory that if "two lumps are good, three are better."

Thirdly, when attacking an infestation, identify the bug, or scale or fungus you are trying to eliminate. If you and your friends can't identify it, and it survives the usual treatments, ask for the assistance of the County Agriculture people: they are in the phone book, and are usually most cooperative.

In your control program, vary the

insecticides you use from time to time. Because insects produce new generations in short periods of time, and in such vast numbers, the opportunity for mutation is great. Survival is a primary law of nature, and it is to be expected that constant exposure to a selected insecticide will cause the development of resistant strains. If you use a formula that contains, say, Lindane, DDT, and Malathion, vary it occasionally by adding Nicotine Sulfate, pyrethrin, rotenone, or Trithion. It is generally useful to add a dollop of an oil (Volck, for example) to your spray formulations to ensure spreading and sticking. Oil should *not* be used in combination with dormant sprays.

It might also be mentioned that a vigilant program of ant control will help the condition of any garden. The use of Chlordane in this connection is probably most satisfactory.

FOR those readers interested in the latest developments, and specifically for our Organic gardening friends, I want to report briefly about a really new departure in insect control, one that I learned about last summer. For three years, the Stauffer Chemical Company, in association with the Bio-ferm Corporation, has been field testing a *Microbial* insecticide. This material, called Thruicide, is a *living* insecticide composed of micro-organisms smaller than yeast cells. They have been shown to be totally harmless to humans, animals, birds, fish, bees and insect predators, but fatal to leaf-eating insects through a quick-acting infection.

The first of its kind to be registered with the Federal government, Thruicide is now certified and approved for use on twelve food crops and on tobacco. The testing program continues on forty insect pests of over thirty crops. The Federal Food and Drug Administration has found Thruicide so safe that no tolerance levels are required, as they are for most chemical poisons. It will be marketed as a dust and as a wettable powder. This is a remarkable break-through which will surely lead to a continuing expansion of this route to insect control.

Meanwhile, the battle on the home grounds goes on with the weapons at hand. We have tried to show that pest control is no haphazard gardening activity. It demands alert observation, intelligent and respectful use of chemicals, a knowledge of pests and their habits, persistence, and, above all, masterful strategy.

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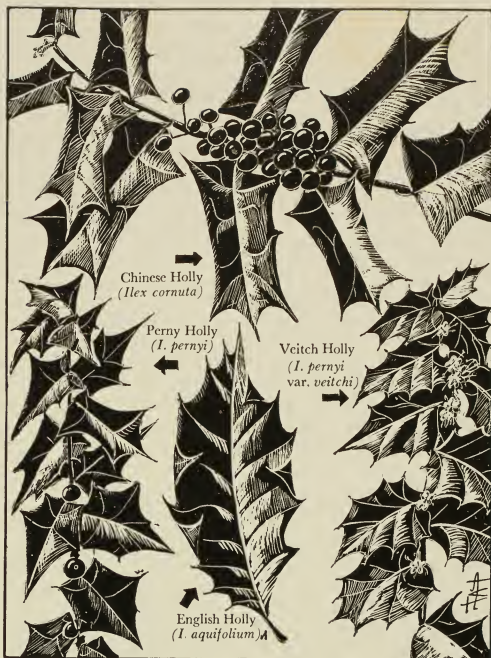
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Drawing by Alfred C. Hottes

Holly . . . can you grow it?

WHERE I came from in Maryland, Christmas holly grew in abundance. I could go out and pick huge branches in any woodlot and decorate the whole house with it for Christmas. When I arrived in Southern California a number of years ago and found *no holly*, my heart was broken, or nearly so.

I tried to buy a holly tree, and was told flatly that it wouldn't grow, no one had holly out here, unheard of. I tried everywhere. I even wrote to the State of Washington. Their answer? They could sell me the branches or pieces at Christmas, but a tree would be ridiculous—it wouldn't grow.

Finally, at Armstrong's Nurseries in Ontario, I found a glimmer of understanding which eventually meant success. They told me that . . .

1. Holly is a family tree. It takes at least three-five plants to produce berries.
2. You must buy grafted stock.
3. Never plant it in sun.
4. Use rich, well-drained soil.
5. Do not over-water.

After receiving this enlightening advice, I bought my five plants, all grafted stock, and brought them home.

I planted them in a rich, well-

drained bed on the north side of my house, watered them well, and left them there with a prayer. No berries whatsoever appeared for a couple of years. Holly matures slowly.

Then all of a sudden patience paid off. Four trees were loaded with green berries. The fifth, which evidently was a male, had tiny white blossoms all over it, which later dropped or disappeared. The green berries turned red on the other plants, and the little trees were a mass of Christmas green and red. They were really beautiful; in fact it was such a lovely sight that one of the local florists wanted to buy branches, if I would let him cut them. You can imagine how rewarded I felt.

When I say that these trees have berries on them all the year around, I am not exaggerating. They do, and the foliage is always a lush green.

I believe that many more people are planting holly trees in Southern California today, but find them disappointing because they have no berries. Let me assure them that by following the five cardinal rules that I was given, they will have more berries than they can use.

—Gertrude Emerson

On the trail of

Green Thumb Gifts

with Joan Betts

BACK on the trail of gifts that will gladden hearts throughout the New Year . . .

Gardeners scarcely need to be reminded that their favorite nursery will prove a gold mine of ideas. Seasonal favorites such as holly and pyracantha, living Christmas trees, or blooming pot plants are charming presents for anyone. Two unusual tree ideas that I came across in my wanderings may strike your fancy, too: Bennett's Nursery decorates living Christmas trees in a wide variety of themes (pipes for a man, tiny angels for a baby's first tree, etc.), in smart containers, from \$5 to \$10; and on the ultra-modern side, Walter Andersen offers to create a bromeliad tree* to your specifications.

Turning from plants to things that go with them, Mrs. Hunter at Rosecroft Begonia Gardens is proudly displaying three-tiered fountains of Terrazzo that are huge and handsome. The set costs \$250, but this is a gift to be proud of for a lifetime.

Oh! and "puddle" rocks, as Mrs. Hunter calls them, make lovely, silent pools where thirsty birds can drop into your garden for a sip of water. These rocks come from the desert, and run \$3.50 to \$30.

At Charles Gift Shop at the foot of Canon St., Mrs. Charles has handsome, Cathedral-tone brass wind chimes which produce melody in the slightest

*See "Mrs. Young's Wonderful Bromeliad Tree" *CALIFORNIA GARDEN*, Autumn, 1960.

breeze, \$10. Inspirational candles to suit the season are available in soft colors, from 75 cents to \$5.

In Coronado, I called on Miss Taylor of Taylor's Unusual Gifts on Orange Avenue. One of the specialties here is the work of our own San Diego craftsmen. Dorothy Scott, who lives in Coronado, creates ceramics which capture the soft tones of grey, green, blue and yellow that harmonize well in the patio. Ceramic lanterns, \$5 and up, casseroles, \$10 to \$15.

Back on the ferry, and on to Muehleisen's on West Market St. Whether for now or later you'll want to see their handsome new "sunbrellas" on black swivel bases. The beauty of the sunbrella is that the top can be made to your own taste in color and lacing in either canvas or a variety of plastic fabrics, about \$39.

My stop at Woo Chee Chong at Third and Island was great fun. They at last have a stock of those wonderful soy tubs, fourteen inches wide and about the same height, for only \$2.75. Pickle tubs from China, similar in size and style, run \$2. Both types make handsome planters. Don't miss noticing the smart, tall cast-iron cranes, about \$25 a pair; Chinese patio lamps in matching iron run \$12.50.

A call on Mrs. Zukor at Broadway Florists is always a pleasure. Out of scads of interesting and lovely things, I chose a new centerpiece flower-arranger that enables even an all-thumbs arranger to set a proud table. The "arranger" holds water and, with fresh greens and flowers, practically creates a centerpiece by itself. \$2.50.

Can't miss a stop at Jay Displays to get last minute ideas for outdoor decorations. Golden, glittery reindeer, \$3.95, are made of beaverboard. Wrapped in clear plastic, they will last through many seasons, and look gay every year as they prance across a garage door with bells at their necks.

Again this year Rainford Flower Shop is overflowing with all types of Christmas greens. One of their specialties is lovely front door swags, either sprayed or natural, in many unusual designs, starting at \$3.50.

Besides a hillside garden worth admiring, Design Center has interesting garden gift ideas. Try these: terra cotta flares to light garden paths (bug repellent, too), attractively boxed in sets of six, \$3.60 (assorted spikes and holders are extra); charming bamboo bird cages which can be converted with a piece of fiberglass into an attractive outdoor patio light.

It's a treat to drop by and visit with Mrs. Pharis, owner of Art Enterprises in Mission Hills, who is loaded with ideas and willing to share them. Give her a call for information about the special Christmas craft classes during the first two weeks of December. This shop is an absolute must for anyone who likes to create gifts or decorations. You'll find burlap in a dozen gorgeous colors at \$1.10 per yard in 52" widths; 72" widths in natural color at the same price. How about making a patio tablecloth or place mats to please a special friend? On the ready-made side, the clever jumping Santa Claus door-knocker from Austria at \$1.50 is a precious child's gift, or a decoration to delight young and old alike.

Look in at John Cole's Book & Craft Shop in La Jolla for reasonably priced gifts for all of those stockings that have to be filled. Colorful Danish glass lucky fish at \$1.75 to add a dainty touch of color to the patio; huge Japanese symbolic charms, guaranteed to bring good luck to your home, on a bamboo stick, \$2. Swedish stars, made of straw, can be hung on a garden gate at Christmas, \$2.50.

And books, of course, one of the staple items of this or any Christmas, and throughout what I now wish for all of you: a very happy New Year.



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Worth Exploring:

THE BEGONIA FAMILY

by Margaret M. Lee

EVERYONE has heard about begonias, but how many people have looked beyond their favorite type? "Wax" begonias, "angel wing" begonias, "tuberous" begonias, yes, these are all begonias, but what a lot is left to say and see! Let's explore the family a little further.

The designation "wax" begonia is more common in other parts of the country than in California where we usually refer to them as "bedding" begonias. Officially, they are *Begonia semperfloren*. Most of those we see are the hardy, single-flowered varieties with green, brown, or bronze foliage, and red, pink or white blooms.

These begonias range in height from about six inches to over eighteen. Planted singly in pots, or in the ground in a frost-free area, they will grow for years. Where they are subjected to frost they may be treated as annuals. They can stand a great deal of sun, even full sun throughout the day, though they may not be so glorious as those which are more protected. Some fancy types have double flowers and variegated foliage, but they are more exacting as to care and location.

THE begonias referred to as "angel wing" are the fibrous canes, often designated as "rubra" begonias. Actually, the name rubra is misleading, since it merely means red, and all of the blooms of these plants are not red—they range in color from pure white, through shades of pink into deep red.

Their habit of growth is like cane or bamboo, except for the very slender, lax-growing members, which make lovely plants for hanging baskets, or grow as vines if tied to a trellis. The



An example of the rhizomatous type begonia, this is B. "pearli." Notice how gracefully the flower stalks rise above the leaves. Painting by Alice M. Clark, courtesy The Begonian.

upright types range in height from two to more than eight feet.

In our area, these fibrous cane begonias can be grown either in the ground or in containers. They appreciate protection from too much sun; frost will blacken them, but if it is not too severe or of long duration, the roots should be alive to send up new growth within a month or so. Summer is their main blooming period, but they produce flowers intermittently throughout the year.

The tuberous begonias (*tuberhybrida*) are so widely known and grown that they almost speak for themselves. They are grown primarily

for their magnificent flowers, far surpassing those of any other begonia.

THE hairy fibrous or hirsute begonias (either term is correct, though the latter is preferred) are not so well known as those already discussed, but they are just as lovely. Their flowering season is mainly in fall and winter when most other plants have finished blooming. They get their name from the hairs on the outside of the flower petals. Leaves and stems may be quite smooth, or moderately to heavily covered with hairs.

These hirsutes come in varying

heights, from a foot for the dwarf varieties, to well over six feet for the larger ones. The shape and size of leaf varies from small and, narrow (one-half by one and one-half inches), to huge and almost round (over a foot long and only slightly less wide). Some varieties also do well in baskets.

Rhizomatous begonias grow differently from any of the others. They are called rhizomatous because of the stem, or rhizome, which creeps along the soil and somewhat resembles a snake. From this rough rhizome grow both the leaf stems and the roots.

They will vary in size from plants that are in proportion in a four or five inch pot to those that require a container the size of an old-fashioned washtub to appear at home. These big plants have a sturdy rhizome several inches in diameter, leaf stems up to two feet long, and leaves over two feet in diameter. Leaves on the small varieties may be no larger than a quarter, and borne on two to three inch stems. Whatever the size of the plant, the flower stalk will reach a sufficient height to allow a spray of dainty flowers to tower over the leaves.

The blooming time of this class seems to vary with the individual plant, probably under the influence of parentage and native habitat. Some of the large ones bloom all summer, while some of the intermediates bloom in late winter and on into spring. After flowering, the plants will rest, sometimes losing most or all of their leaves, but in a few weeks they will start growing again. They require a bit less water than other begonias, and are susceptible to rot if they get too much at the wrong time.

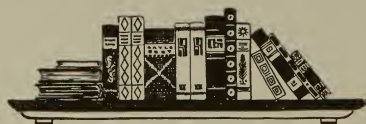
A little-known class is the tuberous rooted or bulbous—not the more famous *tuberhybrida*, but their parents and grandparents. They have passed on the characteristic of winter dormancy to their tuberous descendants. As a group they might be called the fragile ones, since everything about them has a fineness not found in the other groups. As a general rule, their maximum height is about three feet, their stems are slender and succulent, their leaves thin, and their blossoms in the pastel color range.

The most outstanding plant in the entire begonia family is the rex cultorum, or rex begonia for short. Once a person has recognized the class, he can never mistake it for another. The leaves are patterned and veined in many hues and shades in the manner of a coleus. Some of them have zones

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and bands of different colors, others have a flush of a different color over a pale background; some are rippled and frilled with a spiral center. They come in all designs and in all colors of the rainbow.

Most rexes are of rhizomatous habit, although some of them grow a bit taller and branch. As with the other classes, the leaves range from miniature to large. Most of them have scattered pores which sprout short hairs. These pores may be close together, giving the leaf a bristly look, or so widely spaced that a close examination is necessary to determine their presence. Often the pore spots will be a different color from the rest of the leaf.

Rex begonias have an iridescent sheen similar to that of a butterfly's wing. Held at the proper angle to night lighting so that this iridescence is more in evidence, their beauty is breath-taking. They are grown primarily for their foliage, but their waxy blossoms are often admired as well.

They require special care to live up to their potential.

SEVERAL features set begonias apart from all other plants. Most outstanding is their characteristic of producing two kinds of flowers on the same stem—as a rule there are two female flowers on either side of one male. The male flowers open first; their petals are at the end of the stem, while the petals of the female flowers are below an elongated, winged ovary or seed-pod. In all but the tuberhybrida, the female flower is larger and more colorful.

Begonias are great imitators. Over the centuries, their leaves have taken the shapes of countless other plant families. Thus it is possible to have quite a variety of shapes, sizes, and colors in the garden with begonias alone. Each gardener has his own preference in plant material, but take a look at begonias, a good look, and agree that they are worth every bit of the extra care needed to grow them.

How the Zoo Began and How It Grew

PARK Superintendent John Morley worked with dedication on Balboa Park development from 1914 until his retirement in 1939, but he was not alone. Working with similar dedication was Dr. Harry Wegeforth, who, along with his brother Paul, was surgeon for the 1915 Exposition. Almost in passing, Dr. Wegeforth became the founder of the San Diego Zoo.

The Zoo, today the second largest in the world and an institution of international repute, is literally the echo of a 1916 roar, that of a lonely lion which Dr. Wegeforth discovered among a "half-dozen groups of moth-eaten monkeys, coyotes and bears," left over from the Exposition. Dr. Wegeforth churned up such a roar of civic protest over the tragic condition of the neglected animals that the City Council was helpless against his demand for Balboa Park land for a zoo.

Through reading and travel, Dr. Wegeforth had become an expert on animal care and display, and he was intrigued as well by styles of zoo architecture. As he rode across the relatively barren hills of Balboa Park on his Arabian stallion, he made plans for a zoological garden vying in importance with those of the world's oldest and largest cities, plans that were revolutionary in zoo design and display.

IN little over a year the San Diego Zoo was hailed as the finest collection of animals on the West Coast. The mild climate obviated the need for central heating and elaborate shelters, and permitted landscaping with sub-tropical plantings to provide a natural environment for many of the animals in the Doctor's meager but growing collection. The leaves and fruit of some of the trees became a handy source of food for the animals, and the Doctor, a model of determina-



B. MANDA'S WOOLLY BEAR

A bedding type begonia, from a painting by Alice M. Clark, courtesy The Begonian.

tion and thrift, made forays to farms, wharves, and markets to beg hay, fruits and vegetables for his charges.

Gradually, the children of the city became the Doctor's natural allies as he treated them to free admissions,

Part V of "A History of Balboa Park," by Robert L. Horn, Project Manager, Harland Bartholomew & Associates.

free lectures, and free elephant rides. City officials, prominent architects, engineers, builders, artists, writers and educators, many of whom had originally scoffed at the idea, were soon won over, and "Doctor Harry became the hub of a great wheel that began to roll with increasing momentum." Recalling the beginnings, the Doctor later said: "I tried never to lose heart. Of course it was hard at first, but when they saw that I really was making good, that I meant business, and San Diego was going to have a high class zoo, they came through nobly."

IN later years the founder of the Zoo was to travel all over the world at his own expense. He brought back ideas not only from other zoos, but from parks, natural scenery, and from conversations with people famous for the work they had done in their own countries. He made connections which enabled the Zoological Society to obtain not only animal exhibits, but rare shrubs and trees as well. It was through his interest in the relationship between diseases of wild animals and human medicine that the Zoological Hospital was planned and built.

Around 1926, Dr. Wegeforth submitted a map and charter amendment to the City Council calling for dedication of Zoo grounds for all time, and banning bisecting city streets or roads. The plan, which gave the Zoo 90 acres of park land, was approved by the Council. By that time, more than \$400,000, much of it the Doctor's, had been spent in zoo development.

It was in the fall of 1925 that Mrs. Belle J. Benchley joined the Zoo staff as a bookkeeper, an event that in retrospect bears the aura of inevitability. She was a middle-aged woman, untrained in zoo practices, inexperienced in business, but she went on to capture the imagination of the world as the first female director of a major zoo. And how they prospered together, Mrs. Benchley and the San Diego Zoo! From 879 specimens when she joined the staff in 1925, the collection grew to more than three thousand by 1940. By then, the names

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Zoo... continued

Belle Benchley and San Diego Zoo were synonymous in the public mind.

ELSEWHERE in Balboa Park, the plaster and lath "dream city" had not evaporated according to plan with the closing of the "Garden Fair," as one author had called it. Over the protests of Architect Goodhue, many of the temporary buildings along the Prado which were to have been demolished after the Fair were allowed to remain.

Twenty years later the Park was again selected as the site for an international exposition of even greater magnitude. One of the men who was instrumental in initiating, financing, and constructing the 1915 Exposition was among the leaders again in 1935. This was C. Aubrey Davidson, a local banker, who served as president of the first Exposition and as chairman of the board of directors of the second. His vision and determination had led to the hiring of such renowned professionals as the architect Bertram Goodhue and the landscape architect John C. Olmsted. Thus, Davidson's name must be added to those of George W. Marston and Julius Wagnenheim to complete "the great triumvirate of Balboa Park mentors."

Goodhue was commissioned personally to design the permanent California Quadrangle group containing the cathedralesque California State Building and the California State Tower. The latter has become a symbol and a landmark of the city.

Goodhue also supervised the design of several of the temporary buildings along the Prado which were largely the products of his assistant, Carleton M. Winslow. Most architectural critics have recognized a difference in the refinement of detail between the permanent and temporary buildings, but to the general public admiring the entire composition, the difference is of little consequence.

The remaining construction throughout the Exposition grounds was designed and executed by Frank Allen, Jr., the Director of Works. Thomas B. Hunter of San Francisco was engineer for the Cabrillo Bridge, and Harrison Albright was architect for the Organ Pavilion. The Rapp Brothers of Trinidad, Colorado, were the architects for the pueblo-style New Mexico building which is now the front of the Balboa Park Club in the Palisades Area.

All of these prominent architectural legacies of the 1915-16 Exposition may still be seen in 1960.

PICKING A PECK OF

Pelargoniums

with Thos. L. Hosmer

IT goes without saying that every gardener has his favorite flower. During my early years there was a tug of war between Grandpa's dahlias and our own lilacs. Later, I went through a spell of loving the bulbous flowers, but even these play second fiddle now to a full-fledged love for Lady Washingtons, or Regal Geraniums, as they are called in England. Technically they are *Pelargonium domesticum*, often called Pelargoniums.

An acquaintance with the great geranium hybridizer, Ernest Rober, started this ardent love for pelargoniums. He gave me his favorite, a purplish magenta, which was the first dark one the world had known. It was named for his wife, Marie, and was one of many that I got from him.

Santa Monica, Dreners Giant, Ruth McAfee and others were the gift of Richard Drenner, after we had become friends while serving together on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Wholesale Bulb Growers Association. Several Lady Washingtons with the names of the Missions of California came to me from him. These Mission introductions have since been lost, but it should be noted that too many of them were of pink tones, and not exceptional. Nevertheless, from that day on I have been a victim of all the old varieties and every new introduction since.

Through the years when whites were scarce, the best was Drenner's *Mary Bard*. Then along came *Duchess of Kent, April*, and *Grace Armstrong*, in about that order, none of which was a true 100% white. Among them, the dainty, ruffled *Grace Armstrong* was best. Later, Horner came out with his white, *Purity*, but it was a very weak strain. Then *White Cloud* was hybridized by Kerrigan of Alameda, and I believe introduced by Schmidt. It is a good white, but very hard to propagate and establish, or to contain, since it requires a great deal of pinching.

It is an almost continuous bloomer. Four years ago Schmidt introduced *Wedding Gown*, a pure, glistening white, and a very free bloomer.

Brown introduced *Snowbank*, similar to *April*, a little later. The overlapping petals make it look pure white at times. Last year Bode introduced *White Sails*, which is just now reaching the retail trade. I will still stay with *Grace Armstrong* for gracefulness, and *April* for sturdiness.

Predominant-whites-with-color is a limited class with but a few outstanding numbers. The all-time favorite is *Springtime*, a white marked with large strawberry blotches. Jack Evans' *Holiday* also stands out in this class. My own *White Wings* and Ontwater's *All My Love* are another pair of beautiful predominant-whites. The former is better known in San Diego County, where it originated.

In the true pinks, one could almost put down "0" for the score. *Pink Purity*, hybridized by Horner, should easily head the class, but it too is almost lost in the trade, although one large wholesale nursery is again putting it on the market. *Apple Blossom* and *Easter Bonnet* are very nearly true pinks. Bode has introduced his *Melissa* as a true pink, but it seems slightly off true pink to me; nevertheless it is an excellent plant and a prolific bloomer. Without a doubt the best mixed pink is the old time favorite, *Lady Leslie*, a vigorous grower with a very large flower. The author's *Mirandy* is a combination of three shades of pink.

IN the apricot to deep-rose shades, there are several outstanding plants. *Dawn*, an apricot-pink introduced by Kerrigan some ten years ago, is still a strong and very popular plant. Horner's *Goldilocks* (my own favorite) is a beautiful, ruffled apricot. Cassidy's *Mary Elizabeth* is a tall-growing watermelon pink, useful in landscape work or for large sixteen-

inch pots. *Grandma Fischer*, a rich salmon, is an all-time favorite.

In the rose and crimson class, there is one outstanding favorite the world over, and that is *Grand Slam*. This is the plant that won highest honors in the British Royal Horticultural Society Flower Show two years ago. The second best number in this class is the old, old timer, *Azalea*.

In the dark-reds and maroons, a flock of good ones has been brought out in the last fifteen years, starting with the Brown family's introduction of the famous *Jungle Night* in 1946, and its three lesser-known companions, *Burgundy*, *Mary B. Quinlan* and *Red Velvet*. I still grow *Burgundy* and *Red Velvet* for breeding purposes. Towering above them all in this class is Horner's *Fifth Ave*. Others that are worthy of a place in your garden are Kerrigan's *Geronimo*, a bright vermilion; Schmidt's *Rogue*, a very dark red; and Brown's *Conspicuous*, brought out just one year after *Jungle Night*.

IN recent years no really good lavenderers have been produced. Kerrigan's *Cavalier* has good color, but is a very rangy plant. Schmidt has introduced a lavender sport of *Grand Slam*, with the same coloring as *Cavalier*, and the compact form of the parent plant.

The best of the white-edged flowers are *Empress of Russia* and *Vagabond*. The latter seems almost to have disappeared from trade circles, but is again being introduced by Bode. Others in this class are Kerrigan's *Congo* and Brown's *South American Bronze*.

There are really no dwarfs in this

part of the *Pelargonium* family, although Ontwater's *Black Lace* comes nearest. *Black Lace* has a tendency to trail, making it useful for hanging baskets.

Several small-faced Lady Washingtons have been introduced, some with flowers as small as your thumbnail. These have been called the Pansy-Faced Geraniums. The best is the old time *Mme Loyal*, but two recent introductions are gaining popularity. These are Seeley's *Pansy* (1959) and Conn's *Tiny Tim*. The latter was never introduced commercially after hybridization in 1952, but it is being pushed this year by the largest wholesale grower in America.

TO the above list, I would like to add two of my own efforts that have never been introduced commercially: *Dusty Rich*, a weird combination of dark brownish-black, with a watermelon edge, and *Dusky Girl*, a fine lavender-purple which stays low and compact.

If necessity should force me to select several of the best, they would probably be *Grand Slam*, *Chorus Girl* (a new May's introduction), *Fifth Ave.*, *Goldilocks*, *Conspicuous*, *Lady Leslie*, and my own *Dusky Girl*. Your choices would probably be different, but let us hope that neither you nor I has to cut down to such a small list.

Thos. L. Hosmer will be available next spring for lectures on geraniums after a four year absence from the field. Contact him at Route 4, Box 99A, Vista, Calif.

Patience and faith are two beautiful things to grow in your garden.

—Martha Phillips

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Bauhinia galpini tops the wall at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Ravettino, 4514 Max Dr.

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Bauhinia Galpini

A woody climber, *Bauhinia galpini* has the characteristic split leaf of its more widely-known relative, the Orchid tree (*Bauhinia variegata*). It produces spectacular clusters of orange-red flowers from the first warm days of spring until early autumn. The virile color may cause regrets in some combinations. Try pale blue or gold.

Somewhat temperamental, this *baubinia* requires considerable moisture, and well-drained soil. In San Diego it has been seen growing under a wide variety of conditions, but seems to do best where the roots are shaded and the plant can climb into the sun, as against a warm wall. For form and culture, it is a typical wall plant. Allow plenty of space for expansion. Correct growth early to suit the situation, and allow the plant to develop interest in line, as it surely will; prune in late winter and early spring. Heat is most important—deep cold sets it back unduly. A little noon shade will reduce the flowers' tendency to fade.

This vine is a versatile garden subject, fulfilling most of the roles commonly assigned to bougainvillea without the rugged, over-bearing growth and sharp spurs. It can be used as a vine, as an espalier, or left to spill over the ground where it becomes a mound topped by cascades of flowers. However used, it will answer your desire for something new and exotic.

*Member ASLA, author of *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions*.

A Calendar

of

Care

• CAMELLIAS

THIS IS blossom time for *camellias*, a season of surprises for all who have acquired new varieties. The first unfolding blooms on seedlings and grafts hold an irresistible lure for many enthusiasts, while others eagerly await the flowering of new introductions added to the garden in early autumn.

More conservative *camellia* fans shop for plants in bloom, making this the buying season. There is much to recommend this practice, for the vivid impressions created by glowing catalog descriptions are often at variance with the flowers themselves. Then, too, since *camellias* perform differently in different areas, best results are achieved by making plant selections after visiting local gardens or nurseries offering home-grown stock.

Flowering season is the time when *camellias* may be best transplanted. Some growers have inferred from this that it is a period of dormancy, but this is not literally true. Transplanting safety is explained by the fact that the plant's life cycle has reached the stage where stored food is at the highest level and vegetative growth has given way to flowering. Other favorable factors include the shorter day and lower temperatures, reducing the plants' requirements of water and nutrients.

Where practical, transplanting should await the end of the plant's principal burst of bloom. Otherwise, flowers will be reduced in size, quality, and quantity.

If the plant to be shifted is healthy, dig as large a root ball as feasible. The less root disturbance and injury, the better the transplant. Where chlorosis or other signs of an unhealthy environment are evident, it is often advisable to wash the soil gently from the roots before replanting.

Soil mix preferences vary, but the most popular blend is a third each of

peat moss, oak leaf mold, and sandy loam. Check the new bed for drainage. Water will percolate readily through the planting mix, but unless it has adequate outlet from the bed, salts will accumulate and eventually injure the plant. When making a bare-root transplant, enough top growth should be pruned to offset root loss or damage. The plant should also be protected from sun and wind until re-established.

While established *camellias* require less water at this season, the soil should not be permitted to dry out. Light but more frequent watering is desirable. In thus lowering the air temperature and increasing humidity, a contribution is made to the size and quality of flowers. Many exhibitors syringe off the plants daily, but take care to avoid wetting the blooms.

Those seeking blooms of exhibition quality will find it worthwhile to protect opening buds from wind and also to clip back any leaves likely to interfere with the unfolding flower.

It is not too late to disbud, although best results are achieved by disbudding in early autumn. Exhibitors remove all but one bud per twig, while those seeking garden color leave a more gen-

erous number on the plant. Even in the latter case it is desirable to break up clusters, although some growers prefer to leave one small and one large bud to assure a succession of blooms.

The fertilizing patterns of successful growers vary considerably, from three applications a year, generally in March, May and July, to light monthly feedings.

The planting medium employed is generally the governing factor. Those who favor a soil mix of low nutrient level, such as a blend of sand and peat moss or shredded bark, tend to favor a monthly feeding. Where the mix used is reasonably rich in loam, oak leaf mold, or compost, it is the experience of growers that natural decomposition of humus provides a continuous source of nutrients adequate for a fertilizing program of three times a year.

Those who fertilize at this season generally use a product low in nitrogen, and apply it sparingly.

Clive N. Pillsbury
Pres., SD Camellia Society

• FUCHSIAS

IF WINTER comes (and it usually does), deciduous plants and trees go dormant, even in Southern California. We sometimes envy the glamorous closing performance of brilliant color seen in colder climates, but the winter-dwellers there envy us our beautiful, ever-blooming gardens when their own are covered with ice and snow. Our seasons change so gradually that many plants can be fooled, through variations in time of propagation, watering and feeding, into blooming beyond their normal term. You'll see poinsettias in July, Easter lilies at Christmas (occasionally), and fuchsias almost all year.

Fuchsias bloom, rest, and bloom again in a cycle rapid enough to satisfy most gardeners. Commonly, they taper off in August and begin to go dormant in September. But in frost-free areas of Southern California, it is easy to have cuttings which were started in late spring just beginning to bloom in October, and continuing on through Christmas. Some varieties of the new hybrids, such as Swingtime, and some of the hardy old ones, seem best for this purpose.

Winter care of fuchsias is simple. Those planted in the ground should

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be mulched, especially in low, cold areas. Container-grown plants can be protected easily by moving them into a more favorable climate in the same garden. We don't waste fertilizer on fuchsias during their dormant season, nor do we prune much before February, so their immediate needs are slight. Protect them from the cold, water them sparingly, let them rest, and they'll do the same for you.

Mary Bray Watson
SD Fuchsia Society

• DAHLIAS

GROWING dahlias meets the test of an engrossing hobby: it's a year round activity, with enjoyable things to do from spring to fall, and fall to spring.

Here in Southern California, dahlias reach their peak in August and September, with additional blooms until late October, and even mid-November with proper care. Then comes harvest time, when the grower matches wits with nature in trying to save his "potato" crop for the next spring planting season.

The job of digging the roots and storing them to keep through the winter requires only the knack that the gardener develops along with love for his plants. He learns that he must dig the root clump with a garden fork after the plant has lost its leaves, taking care to avoid breaking or straining the necks of the tubers. He cuts off the stalk above the crown and allows the roots to dry. Then he stores them in a cool, dry place to keep them from shriveling or rotting.

For the gardener who just wants flowers, trying to keep inexpensive roots through the winter may not be worth the effort. It may be more satisfactory to buy new roots each spring. Or, if drainage conditions are good, dahlia roots will grow again without being lifted, and flower the next year, too, though maybe not so freely.

But for the true dahlia hobbyist, digging and storing and propagating his own root crop each year is essential. That's where much of the fun comes in. Since he isn't satisfied with the cheaper roots that grow "just flowers," the dahlia fan wants to save and replant the special tubers that have cost him \$1.50 to \$3 or more. Chances are he will have a few of the prize exhibition varieties, such as the large yellow "Art Linkletter," that cost him \$15 a couple of years ago, or the

huge white "Lula Pattie," a 1960 introduction that cost \$20.

Digging and storing occupy the hobby gardener through late November and on into spring, with inspections of roots at intervals while they're in storage. Soon after Christmas, like all red-blooded gardeners, he will write to his favorite dahlia specialists for catalogs to make his selections of new varieties.

Along in January or February, he must get the cycle started for the new year. Waking up the stored roots is easy: place them in flats of damp sand or other material and give them a warm location. Soon the eyes on the tubers become sprouts, and are ready for the next step: propagating cuttings of the scarce and new varieties.

Here's how. When the sprouts are about two inches high, cut just below a joint, or node. Treat the sprout with rooting powder, and place in a pot or flat of sand and vermiculite, or a favorite propagating mix. By repeating the process with care, the dahlia fan is rewarded with two, three, or more plants from a single root. Or he may be satisfied to plant the roots without taking cuttings. But whether he plants cuttings or roots, he knows they will grow, bloom, and produce more clumps of "potatoes" for him to harvest, year after year.

Larry Sisk
S. D. County Dahlia Society

• ROSES

FOR rose fanciers, the coming months include both dreaming and working. When you see the new catalogs, you'll dream of having roses like the ones pictured there. Read the descriptions closely, and choose those that suit your fancy (but heed Jean Kenneally's words of advice on p. 14).

While you're dreaming of next year, your present roses should be allowed to coast through December and January. Water them on a reduced scale, and please—no more fertilizer. Leaving the blooms on and allowing them to turn to seed will help to bring on dormancy. You will be getting a few blooms right up to pruning time, so continue your spray program as needed, but that, too, will be on a reduced scale.

In considering next year's roses, by all means buy bare root stock. This is the very best way to buy and plant a rose. The roots are there for you to inspect, and the bush above ground can be no better than the roots below. And buy Number 1 roses. They will have three or more canes the size of your little finger, and about 15 to 18 inches long.

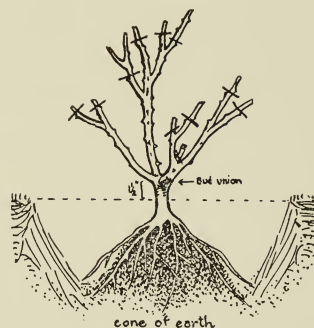
Happy, rosy New Year!

Charles J. Lewis, Jr.
Pres., SD Rose Society

How to Plant Bare Root Roses

Dig a planting hole two feet in diameter and about one foot deep. Put some of the soil back into the hole in the shape of a cone and spread the roots over the cone so that they slope downward and are distributed evenly around the hole. Now adjust the plant so that the bud-union is $1\frac{1}{2}$ " above ground level. (Here is the primary difference between eastern and western planting techniques.)

With the bush at the proper level, pack soil firmly around the roots to eliminate air pockets. Fill the hole about three-quarters full of soil and firm gently (the feet are still the best tool), then fill the hole with water several times. After water has drained



away, add the remaining soil. It is good practice to mound soil temporarily five to six inches above the bud-union, leaving it until the bush starts to sprout. Never allow any fresh manures or commercial fertilizers to touch the plant or its roots.

A planting and pruning demonstration, sponsored by the San Diego Rose Society, is scheduled for the weekend of January 7 in Balboa Park.

BOOK TOURS

Conducted by Alice W. Heyneman

FIVE CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS. By Esther McCoy. Reinhold Publishing Corp., New York, 1960. 200 pages, illustrated. \$10.

This recent book records, among other things, the innovations in Western architecture which have led to our contemporary, garden-way-of-life. Of special interest locally is the section covering the work of the late Irving Gill in San Diego and La Jolla.

FERNS OF THE SIERRA. By Robert J. Rodin. Yosemite Natural History Association, in cooperation with the National Park Service. 124 pages. 85 cents.

Here is the story of the fern, a key to identification, and a glossary of terms, just what lovers of native plants have been looking for all these years!

The book's purpose is to help the amateur as well as the trained botanist to a better understanding of the ferns (about 35 in number) of the Sierra Nevada. Most encouraging is the author's remark: "... with a few new words, one can master the identification of most ferns found in an afternoon's outing."

The 55 illustrations, drawings and photographs are unusually clear, and the background grids of 1/2 inch squares make them easily understandable.

Dr. Rodin, assistant Professor, Biological Science Department, California State Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo, takes as his authority botanists like Jepson of California and Tryon of the Gray Herbarium, Harvard University. With this background the book makes an excellent text for serious study, although it may be read with pleasure by any gardener or tourist at the National Parks.

Ferns of the Sierra was published last summer as Volume XXXIX No. 4 of Yosemite Nature Notes. Copies are available by mail from Yosemite National Park.

—Reviewed by Helen D. Carswell

BUDGET LANDSCAPING. By Carlton B. Lees. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., New York, 1960. 150 pages. \$3.95.

The name *Budget Landscaping* sounds practical, down-to-earth, and sensible, and this book fits that description. It is directed toward the

small home owner, the one who, for various reasons, develops a garden without professional advice. It is sensible in proposing development by sections over a period of years, practical in directing the reader toward analysis of his needs in terms of his site, and definition of his goals in terms of an over-all plan. The book does these things through discussion of actual case histories.

Line drawings by Patricia Maglott illustrate the text. An appealing, mop-haired youngster turns up repeatedly in the drawings; he may represent one reason for both the budget and the landscaping. (G. L.)

JOHN MUIR, NATURALIST, a concise biography. By John W. Winkley. Contra Costa County Historical Society, of California; The Parthenon Press, Nashville, Tennessee, 1959. 141 pages. \$2.50.

Members of SDFA, devoted to the causes of conservation for more than half a century, will welcome this story of the life and works of John Muir, the man who has been called "The Father of Our National Parks." The book was written when subdivisions threatened the old Muir home in Alhambra Valley, Martinez, California, to arouse interest in preserving the estate as an American heritage.

In the chapters on John Muir's life, the author has presented an appealing outline of the life of a man who was "a botanist, an inventive genius, geologist, ornithologist, entomologist, a skilled mechanic, a master of farm labor and horticulture, an unsurpassed mountaineer, a world traveler, and exceptional as a writer and lecturer—and with it all, shy, humble and self-effacing."

The book's 141 pages could be read with ease in an evening, but for maximum pleasure, ration it out over a longer period. A 5 1/2 x 8" volume, it can easily be slipped into purse or pocket for reading at scattered moments of leisure.

All profits from the book will go to the Muir Home Fund. For books or sales terms, contact the author, at 2161 Hillside Ave., Walnut Creek, California, or James B. Jory, Secretary, Box 190, Martinez, California.

—Reviewed by Helen D. Carswell

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Salutes "Clean for a Day"

CORONADO — A wonderful town, but shabby and dirty. That thought prompted the newly-organized Crown Garden Club to take as its 1960 project the cleaning and beautifying of the main shopping area of the "island" town of 18,000. Mrs. Clifford A. Lenz, president, appointed Mrs. Ware Marshall project chairman.

The kick-off came on March 11 with a sweeping stunt called "Clean for a Day." Television cameras from two stations were clicking as forty good-looking young matrons, dressed in the club colors of yellow and green, wearing crowns and carrying flower-bedecked brooms, mops and dustpans, got down to the serious business of cleaning the littered sidewalks on four of the busiest blocks at the busiest time of day on the busiest day of the week. With the help of front page coverage in the *Coronado Journal*, "Clean for a Day" achieved its purpose of awakening merchants and pedestrians to the litter problem.

Club members asked a local merchant, Clarence Anderson, bakery owner, to head up a citizens' committee to inspire merchants with renewed pride in their sidewalk areas and store fronts. He appointed two landscape gardeners, two painting contractors, the city Public Works director, the high school art instructor, the Chamber of Commerce director, and Mrs. Lenz and Mrs. Marshall to his committee. The group named itself "Operation Main Street."

At the request of the Committee, the Coronado City Council allocated \$7000 for planting. The money will be spent along "main street," Orange Avenue, where the *Cocos plumosa* palms now resemble telephone poles with foliage almost out of sight. They will be replaced with four groupings to a block of three palms each, indirectly lighted. A traffic island at 10th and Orange will also be planted.

The Garden Club obtained a color film with sound, called "Let's Keep America Beautiful," and had it shown throughout the five Coronado schools. School principals reported that "the children got the message." Another film, "The Look of Prosperity," was shown to a city-wide meeting in the summer and to civic clubs during the fall.

"Operation Main Street" has demonstrated that individuals, busi-

nesses and government can work together for a more attractive community. All it took was forty gals with an idea and long handles on their brooms.

Native Plant Garden

A California Native Plant Garden is under development on a ten acre site near the western boundary of Descanso Gardens, in La Canada. Theodore Payne, a leading grower of California wild flowers and native plants since 1903, donated most of the plants for the new garden; others came from Santa Ana Botanic Garden and Descanso Gardens itself.

Trails and roads were laid out this year, and a boulder-strewn stream constructed through a canyon to a small lake. Native pines, firs, junipers, cypress, California redwoods, and a dozen different kinds of ceanothus have already been planted.

Springtime promises a sensational display when established plantings of Humboldt lilies, native blue-eyed grass, drifts of California poppy, lupine, baby blue eyes, godetia, clarkia, gilia, phocelia, and coreopsis bloom.

The News Comes in Pairs

Two new organizations:

- Flower Arrangers' Guild, composed of members of the SDEA, has as its purpose the advancement of art expression, primarily in the field of flower composition. The group includes both amateur and professional arrangers. Chairman is Miss Alice Greer, secretary, Mrs. Peg White.

- Southwestern Group of the Judges Council came into existence last summer, with Mrs. Van A. Bruner of El Centro as president. At monthly meetings, members conduct a study period and workshop covering standards of judging and technical details of horticulture and arrangements, in preparation for accreditation as flower show judges by the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

And two national conventions scheduled for April:

- American Rose Society Convention at El Cortez Hotel in San Diego, in conjunction with the National Rose Show in Balboa Park.

- American Camellia Society Convention at Disneyland.

National Honors

Three San Diego area residents, Mrs. Martin Behrens of Chula Vista, Mrs. Sheldon Thacher of La Mesa, and Stanley Miller of El Cajon, have received honors from the National Camellia Society for arrangements originally displayed at the San Diego Camellia Society show last February.



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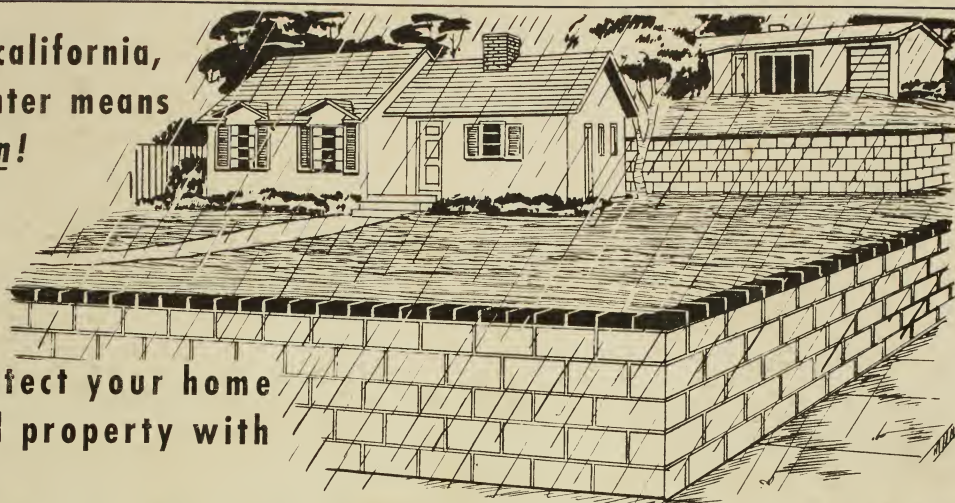
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